

Executive Committee
United Community Corporation
124 Branford Place
Newark, New Jersey
December 8, 1965

Present: C. Villard Heckel, President, Presiding; Rabbi Jonathan J. Prinz, Edward Kirk, Mrs. Estelle Pierce, Andrew Vashington, Rev. B. F. Johnson, Timothy Still, Francis Oullian, Patrick Tobia for Msgr. Joseph Dooling, Kenneth Gibson, Donald Malafronte for Mayor Hugh J. Addonizio, Miss Hilda Hidalgo, Sidney Reitman

Staff: Cyril D. Tyson, Donald M. Wendell, Norman Steinlauf, Charles Settles, Fleming Jones, Mrs. Bess Norman, Dean Harrison, and Mrs. Beatrice V. Easley

MINUTES: The minutes of the meetings held November 8, 10 and 17, and December 1 were approved as mailed.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF CITY COUNCIL: Dean Heckel read a statement he had prepared in response to the report of the Special Committee of the City Council. He added that unless there is serious objection Mr. Steinlauf would give the statement to the press this afternoon.

Miss Hidalgo MOVED that we issue a statement that there will be a press conference called at which the officers of the Corporation will discuss the report in depth. The MOTION WAS SECONDED.

In the discussion that followed Mr. Kirk suggested staff prepare a roster of attendance at meetings of the Executive Committee since the report charges that UCC is run by one man. It was also suggested that Dean Heckel's statement say that the Corporation is studying the Council Committee report and we propose to submit to the full Council for their consideration our reply to the report and our reply should be point by point.

After further discussion the MOTION WAS PASSED.

Another MOTION was made that the Executive Committee authorizes preparation of a paper on a point by point basis giving the Corporation's view of the Sub-Committee's report. The MOTION WAS SECONDED AND PASSED.

It was suggested that the President's statement not be released on UCC letterhead. This was agreeable with Dean Heckel.

There was discussion on whether the Executive Committee should vote to release Dean Heckel's statement. There were those who felt that if the Committee voted the statement could be construed as coming from the Committee when in fact it is a personal statement. Miss Hidalgo asked that her view

be made a matter of record; the statement of a president should not be construed as a statement from the Corporation.

It was finally agreed that the statement would be released by Dean Heckel as President of UCC.

Mr. Reitman pointed out that we had difficulty even before the beginning of the hearings because our repeated attempts to meet with the Special Committee of the Council to work out ground rules were summarily rejected. In addition, he said, yesterday afternoon when the report was released to the City Council we tried to get a copy and was able to do so only after a conversation with the Rotunda at which time we said that if we did not get a copy of the report we would leave the Council had refused. The copy we finally received did not have the exhibits attached.

The Executive Committee, upon MOTION MADE, SECONDED AND PASSED voted to commend Dean Heckel on his statement.

STAFF RESIGNATIONS: Dean Heckel, on behalf of the Executive Committee, extended gratitude to Mrs. Bess Norman and Mr. Fleming Jones for their work with the Corporation. Mrs. Norman is leaving to take a position with the Child Service Association and Mr. Jones is leaving to take a position with the City.

AREA BOARD IN
VEEQUAHIC:

Dean Heckel read a telegram from Councilman Bernstein as follows:

"Following is copy of wire sent to Cyril Tyson:
Received letter from Blair inviting me to organization meeting of proposed Area Board Number 9 - for Weequahic Section south of Renner Avenue.

"Even though I am absolutely convinced that there is no 'poverty' in this area I consider it essential that I attend any such meeting and I hope that the meeting can be moved from December 15th because there is a City Council meeting that evening.

"I am sure that the Central Ward with only one Area Board representing 105,000 people could use at least one more Area Board and much more could be accomplished by channeling your energies into this area.

"This Weequahic area south of Renner Avenue compares favorably with the finest residential communities in the Metropolitan Area - to declare this a 'poverty' area by means of establishing an Area Board is an insult to the intelligence of the citizens of Weequahic.

"Lee Bernstein Councilman South Ward City of Newark"

Mr. Tyson said that part of the rationale in approving Area Boards in the beginning was the demographic information we had and the first Area Boards were established on the basis of need. We know that some people are less poor than others and the services we would seek to provide would depend on the need. Staff presently has some data on people located in the Veequahic area who are on Welfare and this kind of information is being secured for other areas of the City.

In the discussion that followed there was consensus that since notices of the meeting on December 15 had already gone out, the meeting could not be called off and Mr. Tyson should so indicate this in a letter to Mr. Bernstein and ask him to attend the meeting at the close of the City Council meeting.

Dean Heckel asked Rabbi Prinz to assume the chair as he had to leave for an appointment.

DEPOSITING OF UCC FUNDS: There was consensus that discussion on the philosophy of UCC depositing funds in savings and loan institutions and the Sub-Committee on Education and Labor be deferred to next week.

BOARD MEETING: There was discussion on whether the Board of Trustees would hold its regular monthly meeting next week. It was decided that since this is a regular meeting that it should be held as scheduled.

PROPOSALS: Mr. Still suggested that Operation Salvage and the proposal on Police-Community Relations could come up at the Board meeting next week if the Program Committee receives staff evaluations in time.

CITY-IN KIND CONTRIBUTION: Miss Hidalgo MOVED that we table discussion on the paper written by Mr. Jones and the reply by Mr. McDowell. The MOTION WAS SECONDED AND PASSED.

NEW BANK ACCOUNTS: Mr. Tyson said that at the last Board meeting he should have asked the Board to approve the opening of bank accounts for COPE and Blazer and the signing of bank resolutions. However, in the rush of things this was forgotten and he asked the Executive Committee to approve and to report to the Board. Mr. Reitman said he would check with the Fidelity Union Trust Co. to be sure that this would be permissible. The MOTION to sign the bank resolutions and to open two accounts was MADE, SECONDED AND PASSED.

COPE PROPOSAL: Mr. Tyson reported that we are awaiting the money for COPE and that he had agreed the effective date would be December 1. He added he had received a telegram from the Governor waiving the thirty-day review period and a formal announcement on funding is expected shortly.

SENIOR CITIZENS:

Mr. Tyson read a letter from Mrs. Ingham, Project Director of the Newark Senior Citizens Commission requesting a three month extension of their contract while awaiting approval of the proposal submitted to OEO. Mr. Tyson said that in the beginning the Board of Trustees had approved giving them funds to December 31 but the OEO told us we could not fund them beyond our own funding date of September 30. Funds were reallocated to Senior Citizens to September 30. When we received approval to reallocate our funds to December 31, this made it possible to carry Senior Citizens to the end of November. The Board of Trustees approved both the reallocation of funds and the extension of Senior Citizens. He said that at this point UCC has no funds to allocate to them.

Mr. Malafronte asked if UCC had originally allocated \$22,000 to Senior Citizens. Mr. Tyson said he asked the Board of Trustees for permission to ask the Regional OEO to allocate that amount of money but OEO said we could not give money beyond our original grant.

Mr. Malafronte agreed to clear the matter up with the Senior Citizens Commission and he and Mr. Tyson will try to work out some means of their being funded.

UCC BUDGET:

Mr. Tyson said that OEO is aware that our new budget is forthcoming and copies will be sent to the Mayor asking him to make formal application to the City Council. In addition, members of the City Council will also get copies of the budget just as they get other material as honorary members of the Board.

BY-LAWS:

Rabbi Prinz ruled that the Secretary inform the Chairman of the By-Laws Committee that he should be prepared to report to the Board next week the results of their deliberations. No objections were raised.

TEACHER AIDE PROPOSAL AND BLOCK DEMONSTRATION PROPOSAL:

Mr. Malafronte asked the status of the Teacher Aide Proposal and the Block Demonstration Project.

Mr. Wendell explained that the Board of Education was not able to meet with the Program Committee and Education Task Force the last time they met together but they will meet shortly to discuss all of the recommendations. The Board of Trustees took no action on this proposal.

In terms of the Block Demonstration Proposal, Mr. Wendell said, the Board deferred action and recommended, after some discussion, that the delegate agency meet with the Program Committee and Community Action Task Force. The Board did not make any recommendations. Mr. Malafronte said the delegate agency is prepared to act on its own in terms of submitting the proposal to the OEO and it may be that rent subsidy could be provided if rents were increased. Mr. Wendell said that he is writing Mr. King to tell him why the proposal was deferred and what action is to be taken.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Beatrice V. Easley
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